

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 DOE-15 SOE-02
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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
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USEEC, USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/;

TAGS:TECH, ENRG, IEA

SUBJECT: MEETING OF IEA COMMITTEE ON R&D, JUNE 23-24, 1978

1. SUBJECT MEETING TOOK PLACE IN PARIS UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF SCHMIDT-KUESTER (FRG). ROBERT THORNE (U.S.) WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE CRD AT CLOSE OF MEETING.

2. COMMITTEE DISCUSSED ACTIONS OF GOVERNING BOARD (GB) MEETING OF APRIL 12-13 RELATING TO R&D NOTING THAT

(A) IEA WILL PUBLISH REVIEW OF NATIONAL PAPERS INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY REPORTS;

(B) GB RECOMMENDED THAT COUNTRIES WHOSE ENERGY R&D ACTIVITIES HAVE NOT EXPANDED IN RECENT YEARS SHOULD EXERT FURTHER EFFORTS;

(C) FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN:

-- ADDITIONAL COLLABORATIVE WORK WAS NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE RAPID COMMERCIALIZATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES;

-- MORE EFFORT SHOULD GO INTO ENERGY CONSERVING TECHNOLOGIES

-- GREATER EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO INTEGRATE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES INTO IEA COLLABORATION.

(D) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GROUP OBJECTIVE FOR OIL IMPORTS SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE R&D STRATEGY PROJECT;

(E) THERE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL COAL PROJECTS INCLUDING

TECHNOLOGIES REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF INCREASED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COAL USE;

(F) ADDITIONAL WORK SHOULD BE DONE IN NUCLEAR AREA.

3. THE SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED THE DRAFT OF THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF ANNUAL REPORTS ON CRD ACTIVITIES. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISIONS WERE SOUGHT BY JUNE 30.

4. THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED ITS COOPERATIVE R&D PROJECTS INCLUDING PROSPECTS FOR NEW MINING TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION, CURRENT TARGETS FOR ADDITIONAL R, D&D PROJECTS, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PROJECT REPORTING AND THE STATUS OF WORKING PARTIES.

(A) PROSPECTS FOR LARGE NEW COAL PROJECTS AS REPORTED BY GIBSON OF U.K. NATIONAL COAL BOARD, SEEMED DIM BUT THERE MAY BE OPPORTUNITIES IN FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF COAL MINING:

-- TUNNEL SUPPORT TESTING

-- PLANT EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES TESTING

-- HYDRAULIC MINING AND TRANSPORTATION TESTING

-- OPERATOR TRAINING

-- ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES OF MINING

-- COAL PREPARATION

A WORKING PARTY WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC NEW

COOPERATIVE TASKS IN OCTOBER.

(B) IN REVIEWING CURRENT TARGETS FOR ADDITIONAL R, D&D PROJECT COLLABORATION, CHAIRMAN'S NOTE (IEA/CRD (78) 131) IDENTIFIED 8 PROJECTS UNDER PREPARATION, 9 NEW AREAS FOR COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND 6 ON-GOING PROJECTS WITH POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER COOPERATIVE WORK.

ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES INDICATED INTEREST IN EXPANDING SCOPE OF PRESENT ACTIVITIES; MOST EXPRESSED WISH TO BE INVOLVED IN ALL THREE AREAS OF POSSIBLE NEW ACTIVITIES.

AREAS RECEIVING GREATEST SUPPORT INCLUDE BIOMASS INFORMATION SERVICE, ADVANCED HEAT PUMPS, ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY, DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS FOR ENERGY SAVINGS IN BUILDINGS AND VALIDATION OF SIMULATION PROGRAMS FOR SOLAR HEATING AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COOLING.

JAPAN'S STATEMENT NOTED THAT COUNTRY HAD SOME CATCHING UP TO DO IN REGARD TO INVOLVEMENT IN IEA PROJECTS AND INDICATED THAT FUTURE PARTICIPATION WILL BE BROADER. COUNTRIES WERE ASKED TO CONFIRM THEIR INTEREST IN PROJECT AREAS BY SEPTEMBER 15.

(C) SECRETARIAT NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME DEFICIENCIES IN REPORTS REQUIRED OF WORKING GROUPS. SPECIFICALLY, VERY FEW OF DETAILED REPORTS THAT MUST BE PREPARED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PROJECT PARTICIPANTS CONTAINED USEFUL PROJECT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SUCH AS SCHEDULING. IN

ADDITION, PROJECT REPORTS FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION TO IEA MEMBERS WAS FOUND TO BE OF UNEVEN QUALITY AND LOW TECHNICAL CONTENT. PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED TO TAKE STEPS TO CORRECT THIS SITUATION.

(D) IN ITS REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF WORKING PARTIES THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT THE HTGR GROUP, WITH NO CONCRETE PROJECTS IN VIEW, SHOULD BE DISSOLVED. IN ADDITION, THE NUCLEAR SAFETY GROUP APPEARED TO HAVE NO OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW TASKS WHICH COULD NOT BE TAKEN UP IN THE NEA FRAMEWORK; IT DID NOT SEEM NECESSARY THEREFORE, TO CONTINUE THE IEA WORKING PARTY. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS URGED THAT IEA CONTINUE A MONITORING FUNCTION FOR SUCH NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT USEFUL COLLABORATION WAS TAKING PLACE AND NEEDED INFORMATION WAS BEING ACQUIRED. THIS WAS AGREED TO.

5. W. HANNUM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE NEA REPORTED ON A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MGT. HELD APRIL 26. HE HIGHLIGHTED THE STEERING COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS THAT:
-- IN GENERAL, THERE ARE WELL DEVELOPED TECHNICAL METHODS
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FOR HANDLING, CONDITIONING AND INTERIM STORAGE OF MOST TYPES OF WASTE

-- THAT A GEOLOGIC WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM REPRESENTED A REALISTIC AND EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM IN THIS AREA

-- MORE ADDITIONAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND LEGAL STUDIES WERE NEEDED.

AN NEA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER WILL ATTEMPT TO DEFINE A POLICY CONSENSUS IN THESE AREAS AND FORMULATE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS.

6. THE SECRETARIAT REPORTED THAT A MEETING ON POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IN PETROLEUM HELD MAY 22-23 CONCLUDED THERE WAS INTEREST IN COLLABORATION IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- (A) DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNIQUES FOR IMPROVED DEFINITION OF OIL RESERVOIRS AND MEASUREMENT OF RESIDUAL OIL SATURATION ON A SPATIAL BASIS;
- (B) FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH ON SURFACTANTS AND POLYMERS FOR ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY;
- (C) DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNIQUES FOR ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY BY CO₂ MISCIBLE FLOODING;
- (D) EVALUATION OF TECHNIQUES FOR ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY FROM OFF-SHORE RESERVOIRS.

THE EXPERTS AGREED TO MEET SEPTEMBER 18-19 TO FORMULATE SPECIFIC COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS WHERE THIS WAS POSSIBLE.

7. SECRETARIAT NOTE IEA/CRD (78) 133 OUTLINES THE PROCEDURE FOR THE 1978-79 CYCLE OF NATIONAL ENERGY R AND D&D PROGRAM REVIEWS. COUNTRY COMMENTS ON THIS DOCUMENT WERE LIMITED TO VOICING RELUCTANCE TO BE IN THE FIRST TRANCHE OF THE IN-DEPTH REVIEWS. APPROVED SCHEDULE CALLS FOR SUBMISSION OF DATA BY ALL COUNTRIES BY SEPTEMBER 15; REVIEW TEAMS VISIT TO CAPITALS (PROBABLY AUSTRIA, GREECE, CANADA) IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, CRD IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF 3 COUNTRIES IN DECEMBER.

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R. LEGASSIE (U.S.) GAVE PROGRESS REPORT ON SYSTEM ANALYSIS AND R&D STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. LEGASSIE NOTED OVERALL ANALYSIS BEING UNDERTAKEN IS NEW AND UNIQUE, ATTEMPTING IN NEW MODEL A TRIPLE OPTIMIZATION OF THE FUTURE MIX OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES USING MINIMUM PRICE, MAXIMUM ENERGY SECURITY (MINIMUM OIL IMPORTS), AND MINIMUM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AS SCENARIO VARIABLES.

9. THE SECRETARIAT REPORTED ON DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN MEXICAN OFFICIALS AND THE IEA SECRETARIAT EXPRESSING INTEREST IN EXPLORING PARTICIPATION IN A NUMBER OF IEA COLLABORATIVE R&D PROJECTS. IN A VISIT TO THE SECRETARIAT MAY 18, J. EIBENSCHUTZ, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE MEXICAN ENERGY COMMISSION EXPRESSED A SPECIFIC INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN IEA GEOTHERMAL WORK. WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, MEXICO SENT AN OBSERVER TO THE MAY 26 MEETING WHICH DEFINED FUTURE COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS IN THIS AREA. ON JUNE 9, A LETTER FROM THE UNDERSECRETARY OF MINES AND ENERGY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE IEA FORMALLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE GEOTHERMAL PROGRAM. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT AN INVITATION TO MEXICO TO PARTICIPATE WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE GUIDELINES GIVEN IN IEA/GB (77) 14 AND, BECAUSE OF MEXICO'S ACTIVE PROGRAMS IN THIS AREA, WOULD REPRESENT A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE GEOTHERMAL GROUP. THE COMMITTEE WILL THEREFORE RECOMMEND TO THE GB THAT SUCH AN INVITATION BE EXTENDED.

10. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 26. MEETING EXPECTED TO INCLUDE STATE-OF-ART DISCUSSION IN SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING, BIOMASS, AND FLUIDIZED BED COAL COMBUSTION. VANCE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 164322 ACTION BONN ANKARA WELLINGTON
PARIS LONDON ROME BRUSSELS THE HAGUE LUXEMBOURG DUBLIN COPENHAGEN
TOKYO OTTAWA OSLO BERN STOCKHOLM VIENNA MADRID

ATHENS JUNE 28

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 164322

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Secure: OPEN
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